Code 11

Code 11 is a <u>barcode</u> symbology developed by <u>Intermec</u> in 1977. It is used primarily in telecommunications. The symbol can encode any length string consisting of the digits 0–9 and the dash character (-). A twelfth code represents the start/stop character, commonly printed as "*". One or two modulo-11 check digit(s) can be included.



"0123452" encoded in Code 11

It is a discrete, binary symbology where each digit consists of three bars and two spaces; a single narrow space separates consecutive symbols. The width of a digit is not fixed; three digits

(0, 9 and -) have one wide element, while the others have two wide elements.

The valid codes have one wide bar, and may have one additional wide element (bar or space).

Code 11 digits

Character	Widths	Barcode	
0	00001	101011	
1	10001	1101011	
2	01001	1001011	
3	11000	1100101	
4	00101	1011011	
5	10100	1101101	
6	01100	1001101	
7	00011	1010011	
8	10010	1101001	
9	10000	110101	
-	00100	101101	
Stop/Start	00110	1011001	

Code 11 decoding

Wide element	Wide bar			
	Left	Middle	Right	
Left bar	9	5	1	
Left space	3	6	2	
Middle bar	5	-	4	
Right space	8	*	7	
Right bar	1	4	0	

The decode table has 15 entries because the symbols with two wide bars (1, 4 and 5) are listed twice.

Assuming narrow elements are one unit wide and wide elements are two units, the average digit is 7.8 units. This is better than codes with a larger repertoire like $\underline{\text{Codabar}}$ (10 units) or $\underline{\text{Code 39}}$ (11 units), but not quite as good as $\underline{\text{interleaved 2 of 5}}$ (7 units). The non-binary symbology $\underline{\text{Code 128}}$ uses 5.5 units per digit (11 units per digit pair).

External links

Code 11 Symbology Specification (http://www.barcodeisland.com/code11.phtml)

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